

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 15, 21, 24 and 35-43; and amend Claims 10, 11, 13, 16-18, 20, 23, 26, 27, 29, 31 and 33, all as shown below. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented or canceled claims in a continuing or future application.

1-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing a user to create a custom building design, comprising:

a central server having stored thereon a database of building design elements and services for selection by a user in designing and specifying a building, ~~wherein each entry in said database describes a design element data and includes the current availability and the design characteristics of said design element as provided by a vendor of said design elements;~~

a plurality of communications links to a plurality of vendors, including a separate communication link for each separate vendor for obtaining data about said the design elements and services data offered by the vendor, and for allowing each vendor to offer a current availability of their design elements and services;

data specifying a plurality of agreements that specify as to which of the design elements and services are to be provided by which vendors;

a user interface for presenting ~~a set of~~ currently available design element and service options to a the user, as offered by the separate vendors, and for receiving from ~~said the~~ user a set of preferred design element options;

a database processor for updating the contents of the database with updated design element and service information as received in real time from the plurality of vendors; and

wherein a particular design element or service can be provided by multiple ones of ~~said the~~ plurality of vendors, according to ~~said the~~ plurality of agreements.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said user interface includes a computer assisted design application for generating a display of the building with said preferred

design options as selected from the plurality of separate vendors.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said central server is a Web server and said user interface is a Web page hosted on said Web server.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said communications link includes an Internet transfer protocol for the relay of building design element data from ~~said the plurality of building design element vendors~~, via the plurality of communications links, to said central server.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the content of said Internet transfer protocol is defined by any of a file transfer protocol, hypertext transfer protocol, extensible markup language, or electronic mail communication.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said ~~plurality of vendors is a~~ includes a plurality of separate manufactured building component manufacturers.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said ~~plurality of vendors is a~~ includes a plurality of separate property lot developers.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said ~~plurality of vendors is a~~ includes a plurality of separate building element designers.

19. (Original) The system of claim 10 further comprising:  
an order processor for preparing an order to construct a building incorporating said preferred design options.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19 wherein said order is sent to ~~a~~ the plurality

of vendors supplying the building design elements or services for that particular order.

21. (Canceled).

22. (Original) The system of claim 19 further comprising a finance processor for determining the cost of constructing said building and qualifying the user to purchase said building.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for design and construction of manufactured homes, comprising:

providing a system including a central server having stored thereon a database of building design elements and services for selection by a user in designing and specifying a building; ; wherein each entry in said database describes a design element data and includes the current availability and the design characteristics of said design element as provided by a vendor of said design elements;

providing a plurality of communications links to a plurality of vendors, including a separate communication link for each separate vendor for obtaining said design element and services data offered by the vendor, and for allowing each vendor to offer a current availability of their design elements and services;

storing data specifying a plurality of agreements that specify as to which design elements and services are to be provided by which vendors, wherein a particular design element can be provided by multiple ones of said plurality of vendors, according to said agreements;

updating the contents of the database with updated design element and service information as received in real time from the plurality of vendors;

receiving, via inputs received from a user interface, a selection, arrangement or other modification of design features of said manufactured home;

selecting one or more home manufacturers for building one or more modules of the designed home;

selecting of any one or more of multiple local and regional contractors to prepare a site for placement of said home; and,

ordering the building and shipment of parts and labor required to construct the designed home.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Original) The method according to claim 23, wherein said step of receiving inputs from a user is via a Web site and a hypertext transfer protocol server.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a user to customize a building design by selecting a set of building element components, comprising:

receiving data at a system comprising wherein the system comprises a central server having stored thereon a database of building design elements, and wherein each entry in said database describes a design element data and includes the current availability and the design characteristics of said design element as provided by a vendor of said design elements, and wherein the system further comprises communications links to a plurality of vendors for obtaining said design element data including a separate communication link for each separate vendor, and wherein the system further comprises a plurality of agreements that specify which design elements are to be provided by which vendors, wherein a particular design element can be provided by multiple ones of said plurality of vendors, according to said agreements;

updating said database with building design element data received from a building element vendor as received in real time from the plurality of vendors; and,

receiving at a user interface a set of preferred design options, chosen from a set of available design options, wherein each design option describes the design characteristics of a particular building element.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising  
displaying to the user a drafted design of the building with said preferred design options as selected from the plurality of separate vendors.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein said step of receiving is by the Internet, at a Web page in communication with said central server

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein said step of updating includes communicating by an Internet transfer protocol building element data from said plurality of building design element vendors to said central server.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein the content of said Internet transfer protocol is defined by any of a file transfer protocol, hypertext transfer protocol, extensible markup language, or electronic mail communication.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 further comprising the step of:  
preparing an order to construct a building incorporating said preferred design options as selected from the plurality of separate vendors.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31 further comprising the step of:  
sending said order to a vendor supplying the building design element.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of:  
selecting one or more vendors ~~are selected~~ to fulfill the order.

34. (Original) The method of claim 26 further comprising the step of:  
determining the cost of constructing said building and qualifying the user to purchase said building.

35-43. (Canceled).